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Attorney's Docket No.: 07977-046002  
Client Ref.: US3041/3050/3059/3063D1

1765/18

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Shunpei Yamazaki, et al.      Art Unit : 1765  
Serial No. : 09/304,523      Examiner : Robert Kunemund  
Filed : May 4, 1999      Confirmation No.: 9801  
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR  
DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT IN REPLY TO ACTION OF DECEMBER 9, 2003**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.